

Proclamation

Whereas, each year, New Yorkers are faced with emergency situations as the result of weather-related events and natural or man-made disasters; the Empire State stands ready to respond with resources for rescue and assistance, supplemented by public-private partnerships such as the network of 2-1-1 call centers, which aids people in need of health and human services; and

Whereas, across New York State, 2-1-1 services are operated by 2-1-1 New York, through its five regional call centers and two partner sites, which are staffed by trained specialists who assess callers' needs and provide them with information and referrals to human service organizations, healthcare resources, government agencies, and other local means of support; and

**Mereas, 2-1-1 services are available at no cost to over 93% of New Yorkers; in order to best meet the needs of New York's large and diverse population, including many newly-arrived immigrants, 2-1-1 services are available in more than 200 languages, with information also accessible on regional call center websites; and

Whereas, for over a decade, New York State's network of 2-1-1 services has expanded; in the aftermath of Super Storm Sandy, 2-1-1 services handled more than 175,000 disaster-related calls from the Hudson Valley to Long Island; 2-1-1 services were able to assist storm victims with a variety of problems and basic needs: food, shelter, financial assistance, and loss of electric, telephone, and other utilities; and

hereas, we appreciate those who provide life-sustaining services to the people and communities of our state, and who are there to offer help and comfort to fellow human beings in need; all New Yorkers join in applauding 2-1-1 New York and the dedicated staff at its regional call centers and partner sites, as well as its parent corporation, United Way of New York, for their outstanding contributions;

Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim February 11, 2013 as

2-1-1 DAY

in the Empire State.



of February in the year two thousand thirteen.

Governor

Secretary to the Governor